

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of the claims will replace the previous version, and the listing of the claims:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A gel process plate, comprising:

a base member including a plurality of concave portions, each having a depth and a bottom surface provided with holes for allowing a liquid to pass therethrough, and

a lid member including a plurality of convex portions, each having a height less than the depth of the concave portion of the base member, and a top surface with holes for allowing the liquid to pass therethrough, said convex portions being formed at portions corresponding to the concave portions of the base member to fit the concave portions so that when the base member and the lid member are assembled, a space is defined between each of the bottom surface of the concave portion and each of the top surface of the convex portion to hold a piece therein for processing.

2. (original) A gel process plate according to claim 1, wherein said piece is a gel piece cut out from a slab-like gel in which a separation of biopolymers is completed by an electrophoresis.

3. (original) A gel process plate according to claim 1, wherein said base member has a flat top surface and each concave portion has a side wall extending downwardly from the top surface; and said lid member has a flat top surface and each convex portion has a side wall extending downwardly from the top surface.

4. (original) A gel process plate according to claim 3, wherein when the base member and the lid member are closed, the flat top surfaces

of the base member and the lid member contact each other and the spaces are formed between the concave portions and convex portions.

5. (original) A gel process plate according to claim 4, wherein each of said holes at the top surfaces of the convex portions and the holes at the bottom surfaces of the concave portions has a grid-like form.

6. (new) A gel process plate, comprising:

a base member including a plurality of concave portions, each having a depth and a bottom portion provided with holes for allowing a liquid to pass therethrough, and

a lid member including a plurality of convex portions, each having a height less than the depth of the concave portion of the base member, and a top portion with holes for allowing the liquid to pass therethrough, said convex portions being formed at portions corresponding to the concave portions of the base member to fit the concave portions so that when the base member and the lid member are assembled, a space is defined between each of the bottom portion of the concave portion and each of the top portion of the convex portion to hold a piece therein for processing while allowing the liquid to pass through the holes of the top and bottom portions.

7. (new) A gel process plate according to claim 6, wherein each of said top portions with the holes of the convex portions and the bottom portions with the holes of the concave portions has a grid shape.